

Message Text

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14

ACTION IO-13

INFO OCT-01 NEA-10 ISO-00 ORM-02 OMB-01 TRSE-00 ABF-01

CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04 H-02 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05

PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 EUR-12 DHA-02 AID-05

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R 070908Z JUL 76

FM AMEMBASSY DOHA

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 1671

INFO AMEMBASSY JIDDA

USMISSION USUN NY

C O N F I D E N T I A L DOHA 0745

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: UNRWA, UN, XF

SUBJ: SPECIAL CONTRIBUTIONS TO UNRWA

REF: STATE 166372

1. DURING COURSE OF JULY 6 MEETING WITH AMIR'S OFFICE DIRECTOR, ISSA KAWARI, CHARGE TOOK OPPORTUNITY TO DISCUSS WITH HIM PRESENT UNRWA FINANCIAL CRISIS AND REQUEST FOR SPECIAL UNRWA CONTRIBUTION FROM GOQAM KAWARI SAID THAT GOQ HAD RECEIVED CABLE FROM UNRWA REQUESTING ADDITIONAL FUNDS AND THAT MATTER WOULD BE TAKEN UP DURING JULY 7 MEETING OF COUNCIL OF MINISTERS. KAWARI ALSO SAID THAT QATAR WAS AWARE OF SAUDI SPECIAL CONTRIBUTION OF TEN MILLION DOLLARS. CHARGE TOLD KAWARI THAT HE WAS PLEASED TO HEAR THAT THIS UNRWA REQUEST WAS BEING CONSIDERED AND THEN ASKED KAWARI IF HE HAD ANY IDEA OF AMOUNT THAT WOULD BE FORTH-COMING. KAWARI SAID THAT HE DID NOT, BUT THAT HE WAS CERTAIN THAT GOQ WOULD COME THROUGH WITH SPECIAL CONTRIBUTION. KAWARI ENDED MEETING WITH PROMISE TO LET CHARGE KNOW AMOUNT OF CONTRIBUTION AS SOON AS MATTER ACTED ON BY COUNCIL OF MINISTERS AND AMIR DECIDES ON AMOUNT OF CONTRIBUTION.

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2. AFTER MEETING WITH KAWARI, CHARGE HAD OCCASION TO MEET

SEPARATELY WITH ANOTHER GOQ OFFICIAL WITH SOME RESPONSIBILITY FOR UN AFFAIRS. HE ALSO CONFIRMED THAT UNRWA SPECIAL CONTRIBUTION WILL BE ON AGENDA OF JULY 7 MEETING OF GOQ COUNCIL OF MINISTERS. ALTHOUGH HE CLAIMED NOT TO KNOW AMOUNT OF CONTRIBUTION UNDER CONSIDERATION, HE HINTED THAT AMOUNT MIGHT BE RELATIVELY GENEROUS. HE SAID THAT SAUDI CONTRIBUTION OF TEN MILLION WAS INTENDED TO PREVENT UNRWA FROM ENDING ITS ROLE IN WEST BANK AREA AND TO PRECLUDE A TAKEOVER OF THESE UNRWA ACTIVITIES BY THE ISRAELIS; THEREFORE, QATAR SHOULD FOLLOW THIS LINE.

3. ON MORNING JULY 7, CHARGE HAD OCCASION TO BRING UP AGAIN UNRWA FINANCIAL CRISIS AND GOQ CONTRIBUTION WITH FONMIN OFFICIAL IN CHARGE OF INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS. UNFORTUNATELY, THIS PERSON WAS NOT VERY CURRENT ON SUBJECT AND HAD VERY LITTLE TO OFFER. HE DID ADD, HOWEVER, THAT HE THOUGH QATAR WOULD EVENTUALLY APPROVE AROUND ONE AND HALF TO TWO MILLION DOLLAR CONTRIBUTION.

4. WE WILL REPORT RESULTS OF COUNCIL OF MINISTERS MEETING IN SEPTEL AND AS SOON AS KNOWN.
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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 JAN 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: FINANCIAL CONTRIBUTIONS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 07 JUL 1976
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: GolinoFR
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1976DOHA00745
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: GS
Errors: N/A
Film Number: D760266-1016
From: DOHA
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1976/newtext/t19760785/aaaacwcpf.tel
Line Count: 81
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Office: ACTION IO
Original Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: CONFIDENTIAL
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 76 STATE 166372
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Authority: GolinoFR
Review Comment: n/a
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 18 MAY 2004
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review History: RELEASED <18 MAY 2004 by ElyME>; APPROVED <19 MAY 2004 by GolinoFR>
Review Markings:

Margaret P. Grafeld
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
04 MAY 2006

Review Media Identifier:
Review Referrals: n/a
Review Release Date: n/a
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: SPECIAL CONTRIBUTIONS TO UNRWA
TAGS: EFIN, PORG, XF, UNRWA, UN
To: STATE
Type: TE
Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 04 MAY 2006